

Amendments to Drawing Figures

Applicants request to amend the drawings currently pending in the Application by substituting the one (1) formal (replacement) drawing sheet enclosed herewith, containing Figures 31-36, for the drawing sheet currently pending. The Replacement drawing sheet includes the following correction:

Numeral 204 in Figure 31 has been changed to numeral 202.

Support for this correction is found in the Specification: Page 13, lines 18-22 and Figure 35.

No new matter will be added as a result of this substitution. Permission to amend the drawings by substitution is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Claims 46, 49, 50 and 53 have been amended herein. Claims 47 and 48 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 46, 49-54 remain pending. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 48, 50 and 53 is greatly appreciated.

To place the application in condition for allowance:

- Claim 46 has been amended to include the subject matter from allowable claim 48;
- Claims 47 and 48 have been canceled; and
- Claims 50 and 53 have been rewritten in independent form.

In addition, the typographical errors objected to in the Action have been corrected in claim 46. Also, claim 50 has been amended to remove the redundant phrase "wherein the support member includes a rear face".

No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments is found in the Specification, Drawings and original claims. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are allowable.

The Pending Claims Are Not Anticipated or Obvious in View of the Applied Art

Claims 46, 47, and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Manoli, U.S. Patent No. 4,583,549.

Claims 46, 47, and 49 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finneran, et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,047,202 ("Finneran") in view of Manoli.

These rejections are respectfully traversed. Applicants disagree with the asserted teachings of the applied references. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that the applied references alone or in combination do not disclose or suggest each of the elements, features, and relationships recited in the claims. Further, the Finneran reference does not qualify as prior art as a result of 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Thus, the rejections based on Finneran are not valid.

Nevertheless, to place the Application in condition for allowance, Applicants have amended allowable claims 50 and 53 to be in independent form and have amended claim 46 to include the subject matter from allowable claim 48. As all of the remaining claims 49, 51, 52, and 54 depend from one of claims 46, 50 and 53, Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is in condition for Allowance.

The amendment of the claims as filed shall not constitute an admission that the original forms of the claims are unpatentable. Applicants reserve the right to file Divisional applications including the original forms of the amended claims.

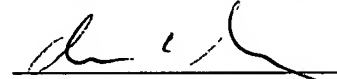
Amendment Fees

No fee should be due; however, if any fees are due with the prosecution of this application, please charge deposit account no. 10-0637 of Walker & Jocke.

Conclusion

The indication of allowable subject is greatly appreciated. Reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims is requested. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any aspect of the Application by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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